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on the eastern coast, facing that of North Wales, nearly equidistant from the two extreme points of the island. There is no authentic account of its founders, or of the date of its foundation. The Irish chronicles, in both prose and verse, are to be received as evidence only of its existence, and no more, before the invasion of the Danes:—but whether as a city, or as the mere head-quarters of a petty clan calling itself a monarchy, or as a congregation of dwellings still more subordinate, it were vain to inquire. It appears to have been first ravaged, and then rebuilt and walled, by the Danes, in the ninth century,—the period of their occupation of Ireland; but it was not the first city of Ireland, either in commerce, population, or dignity, when Brian Boru, so renowned in Irish chronicles, routed the Danes, and subverted their dominion, at Clontarf, one of its present outskirts, in 1014. Limerick, Waterford, and Cork, were then more important places. It must have been still inconsiderable in 1173, when Henry II. found it necessary to erect what is called a temporary palace to receive the homage of the Irish chieftains. King John, who was ‘Lord of Ireland,’ and governed it some time in person, improved and extended Dublin; established courts of justice; began the division by counties; and brought the coin of the country to the standard of that of England; in short, anticipated, by many centuries, the recent equalization of the English and Irish currencies. Henry III. extended Magna Charta to the inhabitants of Dublin, sold the fee of the city to the citizens, and thus originated the corporation. The chief municipal officer, at first called a bailiff, assumed or was invested with the title of mayor in 1409, and became lord mayor by patent from Charles II., who granted him at the same time a guard of foot soldiers and a pension of 500*l.* a year. It was not till the reign of George II. that the corporation assumed its present form.

"In 1729 a step was attempted towards abolishing parliaments altogether in Ireland. It was proposed that the supplies should be granted for twenty-one years; at the end of which, doubtless, they would have been levied by prerogative and the privy council. The motion was rejected by a majority of only one member, whose appearance on the occasion became a memorable incident, not from his giving his casting vote, which, it was said, saved his country, but from his having presented himself to the honourable house in his boots. Nothing but the speed of life and death with which he came to Dublin, the urgency of the time, and the safety of the commonwealth, excused such a breach of the decorum of the toilet in those days.

" Yet the Irish parliament at the time had little authority beyond the mere passive confirmation of acts proposed and dictated by the parliament of England. In 1783 it burst its bonds and asserted its parliamentary independence. In 1800 it was incorporated with that of England by mutual agreement, and on specific conditions.

"The city lies up the river, about a mile from the bay, which is much more remarkable for its picturesque beauty on either side than for its navigable uses. This bay has been compared, rather idly, by some person in the first instance, with that of Naples; and after him, still more idly, by a thousand others. It forms a vast semicircular basin, about eight miles in diameter, perilous from its shallows

and breakers; which are, however, counteracted by a long and massive central mole running into it, with a lighthouse at its extremity, and two piers on either side at its entrance. A bold peninsular promontory, called the hill of Howth, shelters it on the north, having a range of lowlands from its base skirting the sea, luxuriantly wooded and varied, with, embosomed here and there, a church, a mansion, or a pretty villa; whilst on the south, it is bordered, at a short distance, by the picturesque and beautiful range of hills called the Wicklow mountains.

" Dublin resembles the cities to be met on the continent much more than those of England, in the frequent juxtaposition of magnificence and meanness. The late Mr. Curran compared it to a man with a new coat over a dingy under dress. Its square area of about two miles and a half contains more noble edifices, wretched habitations, and public charities, than will be found within the same compass elsewhere. It is in form a rectangle, divided by the river into two nearly equal parts. We will suppose the spectator in the open space called College-green, on the left bank of the river and eastern side of the city. Looking eastward, he beholds the Bank of Ireland, formerly the parliament house, on his left; and the University immediately facing him, with a bronze equestrian statue of king William between. This is the statue, the annual decoration of which was for several years the cause of so much party and popular violence, but which the reason and good feeling of the people have happily, though but recently, outgrown. It was, however, in the latter half of the last century an affair of state, as appears from an allusion in the witty notes to the clever but forgotten 'epistle to Gorges Edmond Howard.' 'The corporation of Dublin,' says the author, 'are remarkable for loyalty and thick legs; in token whereof they go in procession annually round the statue of king William, in their carriages, on his birthday.' The Bank presents a noble, simple, and really classic mass of Grecian architecture. Its principal front is a grand Ionic colonnade, 147 feet long, resting on an elevated plane, reached by a flight of steps. It is entered by lofty arcades on either side. The central columns are surmounted by the royal arms, and the pediment by well-executed allegorical statues. The east lateral front is a Corinthian portico of six columns, and the western an Ionic portico; both surmounted by statues, and connected with the grand front by a screen wall, with niches and sections of plain columns, the height of the building. The interior of this building is well distributed, and contains some few objects of curiosity and art.

" The front of the University, at a right angle with the Bank, is a long and florid Corinthian façade; the central column surmounted by a pediment, and the whole terminated by Corinthian pavilions, with coupled pilasters of the same order. An octagonal vestibule, with the museum on the right, leads from the town into the first of three squares, which is built of hewn stone, and contains three principal buildings;—the chapel, presenting a beautiful Corinthian colonnade, on the left; the theatre or examination-hall on the right, exactly corresponding; and beyond this square, on the left hand, forming the smaller side of a rectangle, with a simple pilastered front, the hall in which the fellows and students of the whole university dine. The university, by the way, consists of

but one 'college of the holy and undivided Trinity.'

" Farther on is the second square, of which the library, with a piazza (if this received misuse of the word be admissible) beneath, forms one side. This library, though inferior to many others in the number of volumes, is one of the most complete and precious in Europe; containing rich materials of bibliography. It consists of two compartments: the ancient library of the university, entered at one end, and presenting a long and noble vista, with, on either side, a gallery and balustrade above. The books are admirably arranged in stalls beneath. At the remote end is a handsome pavilion, containing the Fagel library, a gem in its kind, once the family library of the Fagels, grand pensionaries of Holland, and purchased by the university. There is, again, archbishop Usher's library, left by him to the university, of which he was the founder—containing many books noted and commented on with his own hand. There is lastly, a collection of valuable, or at least curious, manuscripts, Persian, Arabic, Chinese, and Irish. Graduates of the university only, as in the Bodleian, have the privilege of reading; but studious strangers are admitted, upon a proper introduction to the provost and board. The corporate body, which has the elective franchise, consists of the provost, fellows (senior and junior), and scholars; besides whom, there are about 1600 students. The executive, entire, and almost absolute government is vested in the provost and senior fellows: this unlimited power is, with few exceptions, exercised by them with discretion and moderation. The practical business of education devolves upon the junior fellows, and occupies a considerable portion of their day. To the left of this square, and parallel to it, a new square has been recently built.

"The chapel and theatre were built from the designs of Sir W. Chambers; the latter contains a monumental marble group in memory of provost Baldwin, full of grace, sentiment, and beauty, and not sufficiently appreciated or known. There are also some mediocre portraits, including one of Swift, in whom, by the way, his Dublin alma mater could discover only ill nature and incapacity.

"King George IV., on his visit to Ireland in 1821, was received by the university in the library, and entertained in the theatre; and is said to have expressed high approbation of both buildings, especially of the long gallery of the library."

Cuts are given of the Bank, the Exchange and St. Patrick's cathedral, from Mr. Petrie's drawings in the Dublin guide, and of the Fourcourts, from Cromwell's excursions through Ireland. An engraving on steel, of Waterloo bridge, adorns the title page.

*Memoir of the Life of Sir Walter Ralegh*: with some account of the period in which he lived. By Mrs. A. T. Thomson, Author of Memoirs of the Court of Henry the Eighth; large Svo. pp. 496.—London, Longman and Co.

In her Life of Raleigh, Mrs. Thomson, who is the wife of Dr. Anthony Todd Thomson, very judiciously steers a middle course between the cambrus-prolixity of Oldys and Cayley, and the somewhat meagre brevity of Birch. Besides these authorities to which all the world

have access, the author of the present biography was permitted by official authority to explore the documents relating to the subject in the state paper office, and in the appendix to the volume she presents to the reader fifteen original letters never before printed; four of them are from Raleigh, the rest by various hands, and though they do not throw much additional light on the history of Raleigh's life, they are satisfactory indications of the share which he took in the political transactions of his times.

Of the early life of Raleigh very little is known: he was born of an ancient but somewhat indigent family\* in Devonshire, famous also as the birth-place of Drake and Hawkins. The earliest notice we have of his education is that at sixteen he was entered a commoner of both Oriel and Christ-church Oxon. At the university he applied himself to the study of philosophy and belles lettres, and gained the good opinion of Bacon, who then foretold his future eminence, but he left, without a degree, after three years residence.

"In the choice of a profession Raleigh appears to have been divided, for some time, between the bar and the camp. That he actually entered at any of our inns of court is, however, doubtful; and the prevalent opinion that he was at one time a student of the Middle Temple, arose either from his display of legal acuteness on his subsequent trial, or from a temporary residence within the walls of that establishment. Queen Elizabeth with a view, perhaps, to the intellectual culture of her young courtiers, commended our inns of court, and was accustomed to say, 'that they fitted young men for the future:' hence it is probable that, in those days of mental slavery, all who aspired to her favour were reported to have pursued the course which she approved; and that Raleigh was not unwilling, during her reign, to enjoy the credit of having been thus prepared for public life. He is, however, affirmed by one who knew him well, to have been trained, 'not part, but wholly gentleman, wholly soldier;' and there appears to have been but little time allowed for any other plans of study, since, from the statement of Hooker, he spent in France 'good part of his youth in wars and martial services.'

The events of his after life were too many, and their general outline is too well known to admit of our attempting to abridge them here; the following account, however, of his estates and occupations in Ireland will prove interesting to our readers.

"The history of his possessions in that country must be referred to the period of the rebellion in the reign of Elizabeth, who found it expedient, in 1582, to attain Gerald Fitzgerald, the last Earl of the Geraldines, a man of almost princely power over the semi-barbarous people amongst whom he resided. This potent nobleman could muster, it was said, at a call, six hundred horse and two thousand foot, and had five hundred gentlemen of his kindred and surname on his estate. Upon his destruction, and that of his adherents, the Queen divided his extensive possessions in Cork, Waterford, Kerry, and Limerick, among those officers and knights in her armies who had been chiefly engaged in subduing the

power of her enemies in the sister countries. The forfeited lands were divided, therefore, into manors and seignories, containing each from four to twelve thousand acres, bogs, and mountains not being included until improved and fertilized. The undertakers, as they were called, of these estates, were freed of all taxes, except subsidies levied by parliament, and were to import all commodities into England, duty free, for five years. They were obliged to furnish, for the defence of their new possessions, horse and foot men, in number proportioned to their share of the forfeited demesnes; an arrangement by which an effective force was afterwards supplied to the country. In 1586, Sir Walter Raleigh obtained a warrant from the Privy Seal, granting him three seignories and a half in the lands of Cork and Waterford, constituting an estate of 12,000 acres. This demesne he held in fee-farm, and with it, at Youghal, in the barony of Imo, a house belonging, before the dissolution of the monasteries, to the friars preachers, with a rent of twelve pounds nineteen shillings and sixpence sterling, payable at Easter and Michaelmas.

"It would seem that Raleigh had but little leisure to enter into the concerns of his Irish estates with interest, or that, in the turbulent scenes in which he was mingled in that country, he could have enjoyed sufficient leisure to attend to the improvement of the inhabitants or the culture of the soil. From the manuscript records of the town, it appears that he held the office of mayor of Youghal in 1588,\* and he probably occupied the house belonging to him near the cottage or priory, for one room still bears the traditional name of 'Sir Walter's Study,' having in it a rich and curiously-carved old chimney-piece. This residence is situated on the north side of the church, and on the south side stands a large building, called the College, founded by the Geraldines, and which came also into Raleigh's possession.

"At Youghal the first potatoes were landed in Ireland from Virginia,† by Sir Walter Raleigh; and, at the same time, the celebrated affane cherry was brought by him there from the Canary islands. The well-known tale of the potato-apple being at first gathered and tasted by the person who planted it, and of the early neglect of this valuable production, originated in the neighbourhood of Youghal. The roots were for some time left untouched, until the ground in which they were sown, being dug up, their real value was discovered. From this small portion of seed, the whole country of Ireland was supplied with that, which has since proved to be almost its only secure resource as a commodity for the support of life.

"In 1602, Raleigh was induced to sell his estates in Ireland to Richard Boyle, afterwards Earl of Cork, a man of energetic habits and of powerful understanding, and who knew well both how to contrive an excellent bargain for his own interests, and to turn every possession to full account. This enterprising founder of a family, afterwards so

greatly renowned both in arms and letters, returned to England, his native country, with an introduction to Sir Robert Cecil from the president of Munster, who requested the assistance of the secretary to Mr. Boyle in effecting the purchase of Sir Walter Raleigh's seignory in Cork. Raleigh, it is said, had no regard to the sale of his property, on account of the heavy sums which it cost him to support his titles to it, his annual expenses on that account amounting to two hundred pounds. It appears, however, that Mr. Boyle purchased the estate at a very low rate, upon the plea of its uncultivated condition; and that it not only became a most advantageous acquisition to him eventually, but was considered by him at the time as a great and fortunate augmentation to his estate, and as one more profitable to him even than the possession of richly-dowered wife, or of a former grant to himself of lands in Munster, had hitherto proved."

Of Sir Walter's literary avocations we select the following notices:

"As a poet, Sir Walter Raleigh might, perhaps, in the lapse of time have been forgotten, except by the antiquary; but there is scarcely another subject which he has handled, his treatises upon which would not have insured him an exalted rank in the literature of his country. Possessed not only of extensive knowledge, but of indefatigable industry, he displayed a perfect acquaintance both with military and maritime science, and proved in his numerous publications on these subjects, not only that his theories were well-digested and ingenious, but that his information was practical, and his facts gleaned from experience. Upon military operations he wrote three discourses, two of which were completed during the three eventful and busy years of his life, before the invasion of the Spanish Armada. Upon maritimal concerns he published no fewer than eight treatises, being, as he proudly announced, the first writer either ancient or modern that had treated on this subject. These works are written with great perspicuity, and, although, the practices recommended in them be now obsolete, and the improvements and plans suggested, superseded by the rapid strides of modern science, they are interesting, as all compositions dictated by good sense and experience must ever be; and curious, as illustrating the comparative progress of navigation, and of the arts connected with it. Several of the essays were dedicated, or addressed in the form of letters, to Prince Henry.

"The geographical discoveries of Raleigh would have held a much higher station in the collectanea of valuable dissertations which he left to posterity, had not their credit been lessened by speculations in which the interests of his immediate gains were obviously considered, and those of truth disregarded. He appears to have relied too readily upon the accounts of others, and to have allowed himself, according to the fashion of the day, when no precision in geographical delineations was deemed essential, too much latitude in conjecture; an error which eventually, as we have seen, proved fatal to his reputation. Those of his works, which may be classed under the head of Physical Geography, consisted of several discourses upon the discovery, planting, and settlement of Virginia; a treatise on the West Indies; and his accounts of Guiana, which have already been noticed.

"It has been well remarked, that Raleigh

\* See in the dedication of the 'Chronicles of Ireland' to Raleigh, by his relation Hooker, the claims to distinction which their common ancestry possessed, particularly recited.

† Potatoes came originally from Mexico, whence they had probably been introduced into Virginia.

was no less qualified to govern nations, than to conquer or defend them, an observation which was drawn forth by the number of political works which he composed. Of these, one treatise entitled 'The Cabinet Council, containing the chief Arts of Empire, and Mysteries of State, discabineted,' was published by Milton in 1658; with the motto 'Quis Martem tunica tectum adamantina digne scriperit?' And with the following notice.—'Having had the manuscript of this treatise, written by Sir Walter Raleigh, many years in my hands, and finding it lately by chance, among other books and papers, upon reading thereof I thought it a kind of injury to withhold longer the work of so eminent an author from the public; it being both answerable in style to other works of his already extant, as far as the subject will permit, and given me for a true copy by a learned man at his death, who had collected several such pieces.'

'JOHN MILTON.'

" Among his philosophical works have been classed, 'The Instructions to his Son, and Posterity,' published after his death, in the small collection of his works, entitled his 'Remains.' This didactic composition reminds the modern reader, in many passages, of the celebrated Letters of Lord Chesterfield, who may, perhaps, have borrowed the notion of such a form of admonition from this little work. But Raleigh, in directing the attention of youth to the formation of character, presents, as the only solid foundation, the pure principles of Christianity, and derives his best maxims from Holy Writ itself. He places, indeed, a sufficient, and perhaps, more than sufficient importance upon wordly motives and wordly prudence; but he considers them ever as in subjection to virtue and religion. In this respect he holds a rank as an instructor, far superior to the ingenious writer with whom the foregoing comparison has been made. Although he enters not into the minutiae of deportment, habits, and dress, nor upon the methods necessary for the attainment of a good name in society, upon which Lord Chesterfield peculiarly insisted, yet he may be deemed, of the two, the wiser friend, and it may be added, the more affectionate father; for he writes with a more earnest regard to those interests of his child, and of youth in general, to which an anxious parent would look with solicitude, and inculcate with the greatest assiduity.—The essays of Raleigh are calculated to form the pure and well-intentioned youth, into an upright and religious member of the community. Those of his modern rival are qualified to nourish selfishness, to encourage the subtleties and artifices of polite life, and to convert the aspirations of youthful ambition into an habitual reverence for worldly advantages, and for these alone."

" Of Raleigh's historical productions, some incidental notices have already been given in the course of this sketch of his life. The noblest of all his literary productions, the History of the World, was not in all probability, commenced until he had entered his fifty-first year; and when, in sickness and despondency, he had to check the afflicting retrospection of his heaviest calamities, to sustain unrelenting persecutions, and the most appalling reverses of fortune, and to contend against the depression naturally produced by the prospect of a

long imprisonment. Such were the circumstances with which he had to conflict, and such their tendency to damp his ardour for fame, and to chill every transport of enthusiasm—These were, however, ineffectual in impeding the progress of such a portion of this undertaking as is sufficient to perpetuate Raleigh's names, so long as our national literature shall continue to exist. It is deeply to be regretted that if he had actually collected materials for a second part, they were destroyed or suffered to remain useless. If, as an historian of remote ages, he could throw any interest into the narrative of early times, how vivid would have been his pictures of modern manners; how animated his details of the achievements of chivalry; how graphic, and yet how impartial, his relations of the vast changes which time, conquest, or religion, effect upon our moral condition! It is, however, problematical, whether more than loose notes, or hasty reflections were really compiled for the sequel of this justly eulogized undertaking."

We shall only subjoin two of the letters from the appendix; the first shows the lively interest which the queen Elizabeth at one time took in Raleigh's welfare; the other, the sorrowful sighing of the prisoner, in his altered and miserable state:

"From Q. Elizeth to Her Vice Roy in Ireland  
1582. By the Queene.

" Right trusty and well beloved we greet you well. Wher we be given to understand that Captain Appesley is not long since deceased and the band of footmen which he had committed now to James Fenton: for that as we are informed said Fenton hath otherwise an entertainment by a certain ward under his charge, but chiefly for that our pleasure is to have our servant Walter Rawley trained some longer time in that our realm for his better experience in martiall affairs, and for the special care we have to do him good in respect of hys kyndred that have served us some of them (as you know) neer about our parson; theise are to requier you that the leading of the said bande may be committed to the said Rawley, and for that he is for somme considerations by us excused to staye heere, oure pleasure is that the said bande shall be in the meane tyme till he repair into that our realm delivered to somme sooché as he shall depute to be his lieutenant there. Given at our Manor of Greenwich—the — April 1582 — 24 year of our Reign."

" To the Queen's most excellent Maiestie.

" I did lately presume to send unto your Maiestie the coppie of a letter written to my Lord Treasurer touching Guiana, that there is nothing done therein I could not but wonder with the world, did not the mallice of the world exceede the wisedom thereof. In mine owne respect, the everliving God doth witness that I never sought such an imployment, for all the gold in the earth could not invite me to travell after miserie and death, both which I had bine likeler to have overtaken in that voyage than to have returned from it; but the desire that led me, was the approving of my fayth to his Maiestie, and to have done him such a service as hath seldome bine pformed for any king. But, most excellent Princes, although his Maiestie do not so much love himself for the present as to accept of that riches which God have offred him, therby to take all presumption from his enemies, arising from the want of treason, by which (after God)

all States are defended: yet it may be that his Maiestie will consider more deiply therof hereafter, if not to late, and that the dissolution of his humble vassall do not preceede his Maiestie's resolution therein; for my extreme shortness of breath doth grow so fast on me, with the dispayre of obtayning so much grace to walk with my keeper up the hill withine the tower, as it makes me resolve that God hath otherwise disposed of that busenes and of me, who after eight yeers imprisonment am as straightly lokt up as I was the first day, and the punishment dew to other mens extreme negligence layd altogether upon my patience and obedience. In which respect, most worthy Princes, it were a sute farr more fitting the hardness of my destinie (who every day suffer, and am subiect every day to suffer, for other mens offences) rather to desire to dye once for all, and thereby to give end to the miseries of this life, than to strive against the ordinance of God, who is a trew judge of my innocence towards the king, and doth know me,

" for your Maiestie's most

" humble and most

" bound vassall

" W. RALEGH."

*The English at Home.* By the author of "The English in Italy," and "The English in France." 3 vols. post 8vo.—London: Colburn and Bentley.

" Did you read it through," was Dr. Johnson's constant interrogatory when he heard any one praising a book: now we have read Lord Normanby's book *through*, and it has given us great pleasure and some advantage. There is a right sense, and natural healthy and good—morally good—feeling running through it, that we like. Moreover, the writer possesses the slight advantage of being, as our Irish song describes it—

" A gentleman born too, and bred;" and therefore he can afford to address himself directly to human nature, and the springs of human feeling and action, without stopping to convince his readers of his gentility, by ordering his clothes of three tailors, inflicting upon them tedious descriptions of the most approved method of cutting a coat or an acquaintance, slandering one's mother, or intriguing with his neighbour's wife.

There are four stories, but the first and the best occupies two volumes: it is the history of a young man, the illegitimate son of an unmarried peer who grows gouty and penitential in his sixty-first year, sends for his child from the academy in Yorkshire where he had been placed twelve years before, acknowledges him as his son, educates him himself;—but stay, we must detail his plan of education, for it is brief and curious:—

" He took it for granted, that Ernest, at his present advanced age, seventeen, had become sufficiently acquainted with by-past ages, with classic times, and literature. It was naturally absurd, he certainly thought, for children to be immersed at first, for their very elements of learning, amidst a world of facts and ideas so utterly foreign to all them around them, or to any they could ever be conversant with. If it were absurd to plunge them in the history of their times, it was doubly so to make them pore over those works of genius, whose spirit and beauties they could not possi-